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Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of~~ for selectively compressing data packets, the method comprising:  
searching for a string in a plurality of data packets, the string associated with  
compressed data;  
detecting a first marker if the compressed data is found, the first marker indicating  
beginning of the compressed data;  
detecting a second marker if the first marker is found, the second marker  
indicating ending of the compressed data;  
bypassing a compression process responsive to the detecting of the ~~a~~ first marker  
in the plurality of data packets; and  
resuming the compression process responsive to the detecting of the ~~a~~ second  
marker in the plurality of data packets.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~first marker~~ beginning  
of the compressed data indicates that data subsequent to the first marker is  
compressed.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein the ~~second marker~~  
ending of the compressed data indicates that data previous to the second marker is  
compressed.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein the first marker ~~is~~  
comprises a predetermined string of data.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the first marker ~~is~~  
comprises a predetermined text string of data.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~5~~1, wherein the compression process compresses the plurality of data packets prior to sending the plurality of data packets over a network.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising ~~[[:]]~~ encrypting the plurality of data packets prior to sending the data packets over the network.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~6~~1, further comprising ~~[[:]]~~ resuming the compression process after a timeout occurs.
9. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of~~for processing data packets, the method comprising:  
searching a first data packet from a plurality of data packets for a first marker that indicates that subsequent data is ~~already~~ compressed;  
if the first marker is found, searching the first data packet for a second marker that indicates that previous data is compressed;  
forwarding the first data packet without ~~to re-compress it~~ compression, if the first marker was found; and  
compressing and forwarding the first data packet, if the first marker was not found.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the searching of the first data packet for the first marker is performed by looking for a predetermined text string in the first data packet.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising:  
forwarding one or more subsequent data packets without ~~trying to re-compress them~~ compression, if the first marker was found; and

compressing and forwarding the one or more subsequent data packets, if the first marker was not found.

12. (Cancelled)

13 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising searching a second marker, wherein the searching ~~for~~ of the second marker is performed by looking for a second predetermined text string.

Claims 14-23 (Cancelled)

24. (New) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to:
- search for a string in a plurality of data packets, the string associated with compressed data;
- detect a first marker if the compressed data is found, the first marker indicating beginning of the compressed data;
- detect a second marker if the first marker is found, the second marker indicating ending of the compressed data;
- bypass a compression process responsive to the detecting of the first marker in the plurality of data packets; and
- resume the compression process responsive to the detecting of the second marker in the plurality of data packets.
25. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the beginning of the compressed data indicates that data subsequent to the first marker is compressed.

26. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the ending of the compressed data indicates that data previous to the second marker is compressed.
27. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the first marker comprises a predetermined string of data.
28. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the first marker comprises a predetermined text string of data.
29. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the compression process compresses the plurality of data packets prior to sending the plurality of data packets over a network.
30. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 29, wherein the set of instructions which, when executed by the machine, further cause the machine to encrypt the plurality of data packets prior to sending the plurality of data packets over the network.
31. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the set of instructions which, when executed by the machine, further cause the machine to resume the compression process after a timeout occurs.
32. (New) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to:  
  
search a first data packet from a plurality of data packets for a first marker that  
  
indicates that subsequent data is compressed;  
  
if the first marker is found, search the first data packet for a second marker that  
  
indicates that previous data is compressed;

forward the first data packet without compression, if the first marker was found;

and

compress and forwarding the first data packet, if the first marker was not found.

33. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 32, wherein the searching of the first data packet for the first marker is performed by looking for a predetermined text string in the first data packet.

34. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the set of instructions which, when executed by the machine, further cause the machine to:  
forward one or more subsequent data packets without compression, if the first marker was found; and  
compress and forward the one or more subsequent data packets, if the first marker was not found.

35. (New) A processor, comprising:  
a search engine to search for a string in a plurality of data packets, the string associated with compressed data;  
a detection unit coupled with the search engine, the detection unit to  
detect a first marker if the compressed data is found, the first marker indicating beginning of the compressed data,  
detect a second marker if the first marker is found, the second marker indicating ending of the compressed data; and  
a compression unit coupled with the search engine and the detection unit, the compression unit to

bypass a compression process responsive to the detecting of the first  
marker in the plurality of data packets, and  
resume the compression process responsive to the detecting of the second  
marker in the plurality of data packets.

36. (New) The processor of claim 35, wherein the beginning of the compressed data indicates that data subsequent to the first marker is compressed.
37. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the ending of the compressed data indicates that data previous to the second marker is compressed.
38. (New) A system, comprising:  
a storage medium having stored thereon a set of instruction to facilitate a network processor to perform a plurality of operation; and  
the network processor coupled with the storage medium, the network processor to  
search for a string in a plurality of data packets, the string associated with  
compressed data;  
detect a first marker if the compressed data is found, the first marker  
indicating beginning of the compressed data;  
detect a second marker if the first marker is found, the second marker  
indicating ending of the compressed data;  
bypass a compression process responsive to the detecting of the first  
marker in the plurality of data packets; and  
resume the compression process responsive to the detecting of the second  
marker in the plurality of data packets.

- 39. (New) The system of claim 38, wherein the beginning of the compressed data indicates that data subsequent to the first marker is compressed.
- 40. (New) The system of claim 38, wherein the ending of the compressed data indicates that data previous to the second marker is compressed.